

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /067 W

----- 062529

R 080443Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9812

INFO USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 2501

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, EPAP, MY

SUBJ: MALAYSIAN RUBBER TRADE MISSION TO PRC

1. MALAYSIAN RUBBER EXCHANGE AND LICENSING BOARD (MRELB) CHAIRMAN LEW SIP HON WILL LEAD FOURTEEN-MAN TRADE MISSION TO PRC, DEPARTING MALAYSIA MAY 13. MISSION INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES OF MRELB, CENTRAL BANK, PERNAS-MARDEC, FEDERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, MINISTRY PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RUBBER PRODUCERS AND TRADERS. TWO OFFICIALS OF MALAYSIAN EMBASSY PEKING WILL JOIN MISSION.

2. STATED PURPOSES OF MISSION ARE: TO EXPLAIN FUNCTIONS OF MRELB IN HOPE THAT RELEVANT PRC AGENCY WILL JOIN AS MEMBER; FOSTER MORE DIRECT TRADE BETWEEN COUNTRIES INCLUDING LONG-TERM CONTRACTS FOR SALE OF STANDARD MALAYSIAN RUBBER (SMR), CONVENTIONAL RUBBER AND LATEX, WHICH MISSION AUTHORIZED TO CONCLUDE; ASSESS FUTURE TRENDS OF NATURAL RUBBER CONSUMPTION IN PRC; DISCUSS ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS RE IMPORTS AND CONSUMPTION OF SMR; INTRODUCE NEW SPECIAL TYPES OF RUBBER (TIRE RUBBER, DEPROTEINIZED NATURAL RUBBER, OIL EXTENDED NATURAL RUBBER) AND ADVISE RE DEVELOPMENTS IN PRODUCTION SMR AND OTHER TECHNICALLY SPECIFIED RUBBERS; VIEW WEIGHING,
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SAMPLING AND INSPECTION PROCEDURES AT PORTS OF ENTRY;

NEGOTIATE FOR SPACE ON CHINESE VESSELS AND DISCUSS
POSSIBILITY OF MERCHANTS AGREEMENT WITH CHINA NATIONAL
CHARTERING CORPORATION (ZHONGZU).

3. MISSION SCHEDULED ATTEND CLOSING CEREMONY KWANGCHOW
SPRING TRADE FAIR ON MAY 15 AND PROCEED TO PEKING ON
MAY 16 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINA NATIONAL CHEMICAL
IMPORT AND EXPORT CORPORATION, ZHONGZU, CHINA NATIONAL
FOREIGN TRADE TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION (ZHONGWAIYUN)
AND CHINA COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

4. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH CHINA PRESENTLY IMPORTS ONLY
ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN PERCENT OF MALAYSIAN RUBBER EXPORTS,
IT NOW RANKS FOURTH AS BUYER OF SMR AND FIFTH OVERALL (97,905 TONS
IN 1974). SMR COMPRISES ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF EXPORTS TO CHINA, LATEX
ABOUT TEN PERCENT AND BALANCE SMOKED RUBBER SHEETS.
ALL EXPORTS PRESENTLY ON CHINESE BOTTOMS. ALL LATEX
EXPORTED IN 55-GALLON DRUMS BECAUSE LACK OF BULK
HANDLING FACILITIES AT PORTS OF ENTRY. CHINA CONSIDERED
TO HAVE GREAT RUBBER MARKET POTENTIAL IN VIEW VERY LOW
PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION AND BECAUSE NR COMPRISES 80 PER-
CENT OF TOTAL USAGE IN CONTRAST TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
USAGE WHERE RATION IS ABOUT 65:35 IN FAVOR OF SYNTHETIC.
TOTAL NR PRODUCTION BY CHINA (ON HAI-NAN) UNDERSTOOD BY
MRELB TO BE 20,000 TONS ANNUALLY.
UNDERHILL

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